GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5412
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
DEVELOPMENT OF ROAD AS MECHANISED TECHNOLOGY
S. SAIDUZZAMAN

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Indian conditions tarred roads have a rather limited life-span and generally work out to be a poor investment as compared to cement concrete roads existing in some parts of India and in affluent countries like USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop the mechanised technology for road building as USA has developed which is very efficient and speedy with some one mile construction in 8 hours shift;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (MAJOR GENERAL (RETI KHANDURI, AVSM)

(a) &(b) Cement Concrete roads and bituminous roads both have relative advantages and disadvantages. The life cycle cost of a cement concrete road is generally lesser than that of bituminous road. Bituminous roads have the advantage of stage construction and hence lesser initial cost.

(c),(d) & (e) Mechanised construction is being encouraged in road building.